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passing legislation for single specific incidents. I would sure weigh this pretty carefully.

SENATOR CARPENTER: Let me make one more statement.

PRESIDENT: Senator Carpenter.

SENATOR CARPENTER: The Douglas County commissioners, now I'm not talking about the individuals by name, I'm only talking about the office, but the people in this Body and particularly people of Douglas County, ought to be more concerned about who they've got in the office rather than how much they're paying them. These people spend millions and millions of dollars over there. As a general statement, the county commissioners have more responsibility than almost any other form of government we have. I think they're making a mistake to again reduce their salaries. And I don't know whether for sure they will or not. But if they do, I think they're making a mistake. I think a county commissioner in Douglas County, and I hope the World-Herald prints it, if he's not worth \$25,000 or \$30,000, if he's not worth what a school superintendent is even though it's a part time job because it isn't a part time job. He only meets once a week, I guess, but that doesn't mean he is not working at it, maybe he's not doing a good job I don't know. It's just like this Body. The people of this state pay us \$400 a month and they degrade the operation of the Body and the membership to begin with. And it's wrong. But that's what they do. We can't do anything about it but if we could, if we paid ourselves what we thought the responsibility was, we'd be getting \$15,000 a year plus our expenses. Now, I may be a spender but I'm a spender when it comes to need. I'm in favor of raising it but the people say no. Now, are we going to apply the same noose to everybody because they don't show any responsibility for our position and our salary? Just remember, my friend, everything stops and starts in this Legislature. If we don't do it, it's not done. And to give us that responsibility at \$400 a month is completely ridiculous. Now, I realize also nobody ever asked me to run. I knew what the salary was and I'm frank to say that if you paid us \$15,000 a year, you wouldn't get any better members, you wouldn't get any better legislation, you wouldn't get anything better now because it couldn't be any better. This is a town hall. This is pure democracy.

PRESIDENT: Senator Mahoney.

SENATOR MAHONEY: Mr. President, I support the amendment. This will save to the amount of \$9,000 in a piece of legislation this amendment would actually be conservative. They can roll back the wage from the 15th to the 12th and I think it would be good for my county. It would be a savings of \$9,000 in county funds. So this is the only way it could be done legally. To do it legally, we need this amendment. To save \$9,000.

PRESIDENT: We're debating the Carpenter amendment, LB646 on Select File. The Chair next recognizes Senator Stull and then Senator Skarda. Senator. Senator Stull.

SENATOR STULL: Mr. President and members of the Legislature. I have a little bit of knowledge in this area and I think there is one statement and I'm sure it was unintentional. The time that the county commissioners set the salaries are 60 days before the close of the filing deadline, not 60 days before election because the deadline for filing is 60 days before the election. Now, I don't want to get in the way of opening this up so that commissioners in Douglas County can roll back that salary if they're so inclined. But I do have some feeling about opening this up statewide. Now, the commissioners should set this salary for the office, not for